



A DRUNKEN BOY

Caused the Denver Horror Which Cost Twenty-Five Lives.

WAS ONLY SEVENTEEN YEARS OLD

And Had Charge of the Engine's Boiler Which Exploded.

BLOWING UP THE GUMBY HOTEL.

He Was Seen Intoxicated Ten Minutes Before the Disaster—The Terrible Scenes that Followed—A Long List of Dead, Injured and Missing—The Proprietor and His Family and a Number of Prominent People Are Among the Victims—The Awful Suffering of Men, Women and Children Who Slowly Burned to Death in the Ruins.

DENVER, Col., August 19.—A portion of the Gurney Hotel, the scene of last night's frightful disaster, which is detailed below, is still standing, gaunt and sinister, constantly threatening to crash down upon those delving in the ruins at any moment. The search for victims has been carried on to the utmost energy constantly with the aid of twenty arc lights. Flames broke out afresh in the wreckage to-night and the fire engines are again pouring forth water, still further impeding the work of rescue.

The list of dead and missing now numbers twenty-five, making the disaster the worst that ever occurred in the city. Up to 8:30 to-night, only seven bodies had been recovered—being those of Manager Greiner, and his wife, clasp in each others arms; Gore Burt, a Rock Island railroad conductor; Mrs. George R. Wolfe and daughter, Fred Hobbold and Will Richards, the elevator operator of the hotel.

Among the missing is now included Elmer Pierce, the night engineer, who is said to have re-entered the hotel just before the explosion occurred. It is to this man's carelessness that the disaster is attributed.

The bodies of Peter Gurney and General Adams are still in the ruins. Judge James Glynn, who was at first supposed to have been in his room at the hotel, turns out to be at Holyoke, Colorado, where he was spending Sunday with friends.

A vast throng surrounds the building on every side, pressing forward as far as the fire ropes will allow. The police are constantly guarding against anyone slipping through the lines, on account of the great danger that the front of the building may fall.

THE DISASTER.

The accident occurred at ten minutes past twelve (midnight) last night, and was caused by the explosion of the boiler, wrecking the hotel and burying in the ruins many guests and employees of the hotel, whose bodies must have been wholly or partly cremated.

Out of forty or more people who were certainly in the hotel when the explosion occurred, a score were got out easily, three were rescued with more or less serious injuries and the others were unquestionably killed beneath the mass of bricks and shattered beams and twisted iron at the rear of the ruined building. The firemen labored with energy at the work of excavation, but it will be perhaps days before the uncertain horrors of the heap of destruction can be fully told.

The death list will include the owner of the hotel, Peter Gurney, the manager, Robert C. Greiner, and his wife, who acted as day clerk. They were in the rear of the building and could not possibly escape.

Before fire added to the horrors of the explosion, the firemen were appealed to pitifully by men and women whose lives were being crushed out in the flames. Then the fire broke out and that ended it.

A. E. Irwin, the night clerk, who, with the barkeeper, William Rubbe, had a miraculous escape, went over the register for the last few days this morning and endeavored to call to mind the occupants of the different rooms. He says there were between fifty and fifty-five people and sixteen were occupying back rooms, where it was more difficult to escape. How many of them were saved it is impossible to state, but it is known that several who were in the back portion of the building managed to escape in some manner.

The explosion awoke the guests in the front part of the house, and by the time the firemen reached the scene they were ready to be taken from the windows. The firemen, with torch and lantern, entered all parts of the hotel. First to demand the attention of the ambulance corps was Michael C. Burgess, who was walking along Lawrence street on the opposite side from the hotel when the explosion occurred. The flying glass cut him about the head and face in a frightful manner. His injuries are very serious, though not necessarily fatal. He is a painter from Cedar City, S. D.

Bob Hopkins, a bartender at the Gurney, was found on the ground floor of the hotel unconscious and bleeding from many cuts. His injuries are not serious. Many terrible scenes were witnessed during the work of rescue.

A DRUNKEN ENGINEER.

There is no doubt the disaster was caused by a boiler explosion. Elmer Pierce, the engineer, it is said, was intoxicated, and after turning a large quantity of cold water into the hot boilers, left the building ten minutes before the explosion occurred.

R. E. Irwin, the night clerk, says that Pierce, who was only seventeen years old, was drunk when he went on duty and that he was in the habit of neglecting his duty. Irwin was pinned beneath some heavy timbers at his desk by the explosion and was rescued by a fireman. He has scalp wounds and internal injuries but will recover.

The Gurney was a five-story building valued at \$30,000, and had been used as a hotel since 1880, when it was rebuilt, a fire having destroyed it, in which one life was lost.

General Charles Adams, whose body is believed to be in the ruins of the hotel, was well known in mining and political circles in Colorado. He had

been a resident of the state since the early days, and formerly took a prominent part in politics as a Republican. In 1878, at the time of the Ute troubles, he was Indian agent at the Ouray reservation. Following the expiration of that appointment he was sent to Chilesau United States consul and served in that capacity for a number of years.

Of late years he was engaged in mining and various other enterprises at Creede and Cripple Creek. He was also interested in the Manitou bottling works and had been acting as general agent of the company in this city. General Adams was a full brother of ex-State Auditor Louis Schwanbeck. The name of Adams was given him by an act of one of the first sessions of the Colorado legislature.

Peter Gurney, owner of the hotel, was one of the old-time citizens of Denver. He was about sixty years of age, and a widower, his daughter being the wife of R. C. Greiner. All three of these perished in the explosion. By trade Gurney was a contractor and builder, and in this branch of business made a good deal of money. He superintended the construction of the chamber of commerce, the court house and more recently the capital. He was a Scotchman.

THE RUINS.

The hotel was divided about the center by a rotunda or court running to the top of the building, though covered at the second floor. The building had been split in two at this point of division and the entire five stories back of the rotunda were thrown into a shapeless mass in the alley. Five stories of brick and wood and iron, with the human occupants were made a mere heap of death containing ruins. The fragments of the wreck on Lawrence street towered up into the air, dark and yawning, while a great section of roof hung in threatening suspension over the chaos below. Out of the pile of brick, wood and iron below there came feeble moans and piteous cries for help.

A fireman clambering up the mountain of ruins felt his feet crunch against human flesh. He reached down and touched with his hand an arm protruding from the mass beneath him. There still seemed to be no life. The blaze had been smothered by the falling building and the firemen devoted their efforts to the work of rescue. And then suddenly the flames broke out and the workers were driven away and the voices ceased to cry for help. The great mass was from that moment nothing but a grave. The most that the firemen could do, while the flames shot up fiercely and smoke drove them back, was to fight fiercely for the life of one poor fellow, Joseph Munal, whose head and shoulders protruded from the burning mass.

Police Surgeon J. A. Recki took his place where he could keep Munal's head moist and properly attend to him while his lower limbs were being extricated. It was a position of great danger for all on account of the flames and the overhanging roof which threatened to come down at any moment. But the men worked on, hauling at beams with ropes and using every device to clear the space around the suffering man, who bore his agony with great bravery and cheered on his helpers. At last, about 2:30 o'clock, a great cheer arose and word was spread among the great crowd waiting outside that the work was finished. Soon firemen and citizens appeared at the entrance of the alley bearing Munal on a stretcher. He was unconscious, but suffering great agony and the physicians expressed little hope for his ultimate revival.

At times the cries of a babe and the moans of the men and women could be heard, but the flames and smoke increased and finally the voices were all silenced.

At 4:30 a large force of men and teams began hauling away the mountain of debris from the place where the hotel stood. It took hours to work into the mass to the spot where most of the bodies were supposed to be.

THE FATALITIES.

A large force of men and teams are still engaged in hauling away the debris. At 11 o'clock one body which was not identified had been removed from the ruins and several more were in sight. The number killed will not exceed twenty-five.

Following are lists of the dead and injured so far as yet ascertained:

Dead:

Peter Gurney, owner of the hotel.

R. C. Greiner, manager of the hotel, son-in-law of Peter Gurney.

Mrs. R. C. Greiner, clerk of the hotel, daughter of Peter Gurney.

Child of Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Greiner.

Gen. Charles Adams, Manitou, Col.

Al. Blake, Pueblo, Col.

Myron E. Hawley, Union Pacific railroad clerk, Denver.

James Murphy, contractor, Denver.

George Burt, passenger conductor on the Rock Island railroad, Colorado Springs.

Mrs. G. R. Wolf and daughter, Lincoln, Neb.

Fred Hubbard, or Hauser, of Elizabeth, Iowa.

Three chambermaids, names unknown.

One bell-boy, name unknown.

Missing:

Greiner, father of R. C. Greiner, manager of the hotel.

Bud Burns, Colorado Springs.

W. J. Carson, Pueblo, Col.

F. French, Central City, Col.

Bart Lash, Central City, Col.

E. M. Edmunds, butcher, Denver.

E. F. McCloskey, Canon City, Col.

Judge Glynn, Leadville, Col.

J. D. Kirk, Omaha.

J. A. Brown, Omaha.

Elmer Pierce, engineer of the Gurney hotel.

THE INJURED.

Joseph Munal, cigarmaker, Cairo, Ill., face and head terribly cut; body bruised; internal injuries.

Michael C. Burgess, severely cut about face.

A. E. Irwin, night clerk, cuts and bruises.

J. H. Latham, tramway conductor, body badly bruised; internal injuries.

Fred Coleman, not serious.

Bud Hopkins, not serious.

J. H. Latham was discovered alive in the ruins to-day. He was jammed between an ice box and timbers in such shape that it was impossible to remove him for several hours. Meanwhile he was piteously to be saved, till finally he was rescued and removed to a local hospital. One of his arms was crushed and he may have suffered internal injury, but his recovery is confidently expected.

Among the guests who escaped practically uninjured are:

Peter Ross and daughter, Chattanooga, Tenn.; W. M. McCormick, traveling salesman, Chicago; Ray Helme, Ogden,

Utah; Mr. and Mrs. W. C. McClain and baby, Huron, Kas.; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Shaw, Huron, Kas.; Herman Leuders, Manitou, Col.; Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Roberts, Colorado Springs, Col.; Mrs. A. Schmitt and her two sons, Charles and Leo.

This afternoon five bodies were recovered. Two were identified as the remains of Mr. and Mrs. I. C. Greiner.

Judge James Glynn, whose name is in the list of missing, had a room at the hotel, but it is not positively known that he occupied the room last night. He was a prominent Populist.

HEARTRENDING SCENE.

The scenes surrounding the death of James Murphy, contractor, were heart-rending. The firemen engaged at the rear of the building heard the agonizing cries from the man who was burning, and asking them to continue to play the water. After a few hours heroic work the firemen reached him. His lower limbs were pinned between two heavy joists. After the most herculean efforts with dense smoke blinding them, the firemen released Murphy's leg. At this moment a sheet of flame compelled them to withdraw. Murphy then offered his rescuers \$1,000 to get him out, and piteously demanded them to chop his leg off. A second later the west wall collapsed and covered Murphy with tons of ruins. Mr. Murphy came to Denver from Omaha six years ago.

Mrs. George R. Wolfe, of Lincoln, Neb., visiting Mrs. Schmitt, was a victim of the catastrophe. She was accompanied by her five-year-old daughter. Mrs. Wolfe's husband is a prominent tobacco manufacturer of Lincoln. He left the hotel yesterday for a tour of Colorado.

J. A. Brown and J. L. Kirk, of Omaha, are among the missing. They registered at the Gurney Sunday afternoon and have not been seen since the explosion. Mrs. Brown telegraphed an inquiry from Omaha and Chief Goulding answered that there were little hopes of her husband being alive. A suit of clothes was found in the ruins of the hotel, in the pockets of which was a thousand-mile railroad book bearing the name of A. Stuckey and a letter addressed to Miss Hattie Layton, Belvidere, Ill.

M. E. Letson, a dairyman of this city, was in the ruins ten hours before he was rescued. His injuries are a crushed arm, several contusions and the shock to his nervous system.

Frederick French, one of those yet missing, came to Colorado from Michigan in 1875, locating in Gilpin county. He had served as alderman and mayor of Central City, and two years ago was elected county treasurer. He was a prominent Mason.

Bell L. Lorch, another victim, hailing from Central City, was twenty-eight years old and a native of that city. He was one of the best known assayers in the state. He leaves a wife and young son, who are now visiting in Iowa.

THE MONEY LOSS.

The total loss caused by the explosion and fire is about \$75,000. The Gurney hotel was worth about \$20,000 and had \$8,000 worth of furniture. It is a total wreck, but was insured for \$25,000.

The McMann block, which stands next to the Gurney, was also heavily damaged. It is owned by Col. E. B. Fisher, and was built in 1890. It is a four-story pressed brick, and is occupied throughout by the A. Lilliblade Furniture company. The whole rear end of this block was ruined. The loss on the building is about \$25,000, as the building will have to be torn down. The stock of A. Lilliblade, valued at \$30,000, is only partly lost.

EX-JUSTICE STRONG DEAD.

The Famous Jurist and Christian Statesman Passes Away at an Advanced Age.

LAKE MINNEWASKA, N. Y., August 19.—Ex-Associate Justice Strong, of the United States supreme court, died here at ten minutes past 2 o'clock this afternoon.

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 19.—Justice William Strong had been off the supreme court bench since December, 1880, when he retired under a law granting to justices of this court the privilege of retiring with full pay after reaching the age of seventy years and after having served for ten years.

He was born in Somers, Conn., in 1808. He was the son of a clergyman and was graduated from Yale in 1828, teaching school part of the time between then and 1832, when he entered on the practice of law at Reading, Pa. He rose rapidly in his profession and in 1840 was elected to Congress as a Democrat and re-elected two years later. He then declined a re-nomination and retired from active politics. He was elected a justice of the supreme court of Pennsylvania in 1857 and served eleven years, resigning to resume his legal practice in Philadelphia. In 1870 he was appointed an associate justice of the United States supreme court and took high rank on that tribunal, gaining a reputation for sound judgment, keen discrimination and legal knowledge. He was one of the supreme court members on the famous electoral commission. He was probably the most prominent layman in the Presbyterian church. For years he has been president of the American Tract Society and of the American Sunday school union.

COLORED R.S. OF P.

The Supreme Lodge Meets—Not Worrying About Legal Matters.

CHICAGO, August 19.—Colored Knights of Pythias are not anticipating much trouble in spite of the fact that the affairs of their supreme lodge have been placed in the hands of a receiver. The eighth biennial session of the supreme lodge opened to-day, the first session being occupied by the committee on credentials in charging up the credentials of the delegates. These number 162 and represent twenty-eight states, as well as the West Indies. Each state is entitled to two representatives and the West Indies have three.

The delegates expressed themselves as satisfied that their legal troubles would be settled in short order and the affairs of the organization taken out of the courts.

A Woman's Sacrifice.

HARTFORD, Pa., August 19.—George Chisnell, who has attained local prominence as a short distance runner, quarreled to-day with Nicholas Fichter, his step son, and during the altercation drew a revolver. Mrs. Chisnell ran between the men just as Chisnell fired. Two bullets took effect in the lower part of her body, inflicting wounds that will probably prove fatal. Chisnell made his escape.

THE FIGHT IS ON

Between the Democratic Factions Over in Ohio.

SILVERITES CLAIM A MAJORITY

Of the Delegates in the State Convention, but the Brice Men Claim Just the Reverse—Kilbourne, the Candidate of the Free Silverites Declines to Permit the Use of His Name for Governor—Indications of a Compromise Money Plan, Which Means the Question Will Be Straddled.

SPRINGFIELD, O., August 19.—Many delegates are here to-night, although the Democratic state convention does not assemble until Wednesday. The fight between the free silver and the Brice men will occur to-morrow evening when the members of the committee on resolutions and other committees in the organization are selected.

There are 808 delegates. The silver men classify them as 343 for free silver and 325 for gold and 137 doubtful. The Brice men claim there are 465 for "honest money," and of the 343 claimed by the Thirman men for silver, some are doubtful. It is generally believed since the last counties selected delegates to-day that the Brice men will control all the organization and have fourteen out of twenty-one members of the committee on resolutions. Senator Brice, ex-Governor Campbell and other leaders will arrive to-morrow morning and are to dine with John H. Thomas, the free silver leader. This act is recognized as assuring a compromise before the district meetings are held at 5 p. m. It is believed there will be some agreement at the Thomas dinner as to who will be nominated for governor. If ex-Governor Campbell will not run, then John H. Thomas or James Kilbourne may be nominated. Both are free silver men.

The real issue pending is as to what concession will be made to the free silver men and yet make the financial record for the party that is desired by Senator Brice. One may get the platform and the other the nominee.

A sensation was sprung to-day when it was made known that Kilbourne in a letter forbids the use of his name in the convention as a candidate for governor. The silver men held a meeting to-night, at which it was resolved not to accept the nominee or anything else in lieu of conceding the platform. The meeting decided that all they asked was for recognition in the platform. A committee, headed by Allen W. Thurman, was appointed to draft a conservative silver plank to submit to the committee on resolutions to-morrow night.

This committee was directed to limit the coinage to that of American silver, free to 16 and not include the silver of any other country. The meeting heard some rabidly radical speeches, but the spirit of the majority was for a conservative course towards Senator Brice and what was termed "his majority."

KENTUCKY CAMPAIGN.

The Republican and Democratic Candidates Meet in the First of Their Series of Debates.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., August 19.—Long before 8 o'clock every one of the 3,000 chairs in the Auditorium were taken by citizens, who had gathered to listen to the first of the twelve joint discussions between William O. Braeley and J. W. Hardin, Republican and Democratic candidates for governor. The seats were evenly divided between the partisans of the two aspirants.

On the stage four hundred seats on a raised platform were provided for distinguished people. These chairs were occupied by men known in state politics, many of them being candidates on the respective tickets. When Mayor Tyler called the assemblage to order standing room was at a premium.

When Gen. Hardin came to the stage there was a cheer, but partisans of Bradley were the more demonstrative. Mayor Tyler, in a few words, called the meeting to order and introduced Gen. Hardin. On the subject of the finances he said he opposed the policy of London and New York bankers and the suicidal policy of the Republican party.

It was 9:25 o'clock when Colonel Bradley was introduced, and his partisans gave him an ovation. He favored the gold standard and an international agreement. Colonel Bradley spoke for an hour and thirty minutes.

THEIR SCHEME.

Butler, Jones and Harris Have a Plan for All Our Financial Ills.

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 19.—Ex-Senator Butler, of South Carolina, called to-day on Senators Jones and Harris, members of the executive committee appointed by the recent Democratic silver conference, and suggested the following propositions to be advocated by the silver Democrats:

1. Repeal the tax on state bank circulation.
2. Admit silver to coinage at an equality with gold at the ratio of 16 to 1.
3. Retire all greenbacks and coin certificates.
4. Require national banks to surrender their charters and permit them to take out state charters under national supervision.
5. Take the government entirely out of the banking business.
6. Stop the issuance of long-time bonds by the government. The revenue should be enough to support the government. But if it is necessary to issue bonds they should be of small denomination in order that our own people invest their savings in them.

HIS OWN VICTIM.

A Merchant Caught in a Trap He Had Set for a Burglar.

SUPPLE, Va., August 19.—Benjamin E. Cross, who did a grocery business on East Washington street, was shot by a trap gun fatally about 10 o'clock Sunday. His store had been robbed recently, and thinking to be prepared for the next marauders, Cross set an old army musket in the rear, heavily charged with No. 2 shot, with a nicely adjusted wire attachment to the trigger. He put out the lights about midnight and was preparing to close the doors when he returned to the back of the

store to get a package, forgetting the trap gun. He struck the danger wire, which discharged the piece. He received the load of shot in the leg near the knee. Doctors were summoned, but owing to the great loss of blood they could not save the life of Cross, who leaves a wife and two children.

ZIEGLER WON.

The American Beats England's Champion Light Weight in Twenty Hard Fought Rounds.

BALTIMORE, August 19.—The international bout between Stanton Abbott, champion light-weight of England, and Owen Ziegler, of Philadelphia, who fought Jack McAuliffe to a draw, occurred to-night at the Eureka Athletic Club in the presence of 1,500 spectators. Twenty hard-fought rounds were fought, each man working hard.

The twentieth and last round was a savage one, give and take, the American getting it on the nose, and the Englishman being stormed with face, neck and body blows until he was against the ropes. As the gong sounded the referee declared Ziegler the winner. He will be matched against Young Griffo.

THE GLASS CONFERENCE.

Wage Scales Affecting 50,000 Men to Be Settled This Week.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., August 19.—The final settlement of the wage scales in the different lines of the glass trade that have not yet been adjusted, are to be considered at conferences arranged for this week in Pittsburgh. Thousands of workers will be affected by these settlements, if they are made and a prospect for a start of all factories now idle are unusually bright and fires for the coming year will likely be lighted in the different union factories of the country on September 1.

The prescription, stopper grinding, pressed wire, iron mold and engraving scales are to be considered in conference this week. The prescription branch, which affects over 8,000 men, and stopper grinding for the eastern district, in which a like number of men are interested, will come up in conference between committees of workers and manufacturers at the Monongahela house to-morrow. The wage scales of the Green Bottle League, composed of about 4,000 skilled workers in the country, will be considered at a conference to be held here this week.

The wage committees of the window glass manufacturers and employees will confer again on Friday and make another effort to arrange a scale for the next fire that will effect at least 10,000 men.

In all these three branches of the glass trade fully 50,000 workers will be interested.

VESTMAKERS STRIKE.

Over Two Thousand Out in New York to Maintain Their Agreement.

NEW YORK, August 19.—Two thousand, five hundred union vestmakers, including 700 women and girls, are on strike to-day for a renewal of their agreement. The strikers assembled early at 326 East Houston street, where speeches were made by Secretary Morris Freund and others. The strikers are members of Local Assemblies Nos. 436 and 1058 K. of L. It is not likely the contractors will make any determined opposition, but as some of them are not pressed with orders, they may require a week to close up the strike.

The knee-pantmakers' union is the next organization booked to strike, but not until they hear from the contractors on the question of signing their agreement.

Cloakmakers union No. 1 has presented a new piece work price, increasing rates for cloakmaking from 25 to 50 per cent over present figures. There are 10,000 workers interested, who, unless concessions are made, will go on a general strike.

IRON MINERS' STRIKE.

The Men Refuse the Offer of the Operators and the Strike Continues.

ISHPEMING, Mich., August 19.—The miners' meeting held at 3 o'clock this afternoon decided to reject the offer of the mine owners and remain out on a strike.

Coal Mines Shut Down.

SHAMOKIN, Pa., August 19.—J. J. Langdon & Co., owners of several coal mines in this vicinity, have ordered the suspension of all work at their Nelson shaft, throwing 900 men and boys out of work. The suspension, which is likely to be protracted, is attributed to the low prices obtained for coal. All "dead" work had been stopped and the mules hoisted out of the colliery.

THE NORTHERN PACIFIC.

The Rumors of Rival Plans for Its Re-organization.

CHICAGO, August 19.—The Tribune will say to-morrow:

During the past few weeks there has been a great deal said in the newspapers in regard to the Northern Pacific railroad and the rival plans for its re-organization.

While it is of great public interest that such an immense property should be lifted from bankruptcy and placed on a solvent basis, it is very evident that any re-organization, to be successful, must be based on the plan of placing the fixed charges or annual interest within the limit the company can earn over the operating expenses, taxes, etc.

The Northern Pacific system consists of about 4,000 miles of railway, of which 3,500 miles are owned by the company and covered by mortgages and about 1,100 miles are leased. The leased lines are covered by mortgages, the bonds of which have been guaranteed by the Northern Pacific Company.

TRUNK LINE AGREEMENT.

Capitulates that Each Road Can Work for Business but Doesn't Cut Rates.

CHICAGO, August 19.—A report has reached here concerning the proposed agreement of the trunk line presidents. It is to the effect that the rate-making and rate-maintaining powers of the roads are to be placed in the hands of a board of governors consisting of nine persons.

The idea of joint agencies has also been abandoned and each road is to be allowed to work as hard as it please for the business and take all it can get, as long as it does not cut rates.

QUEER CONDUCT

Of Chinese Officials Regarding the Ku Cheng Massacres.

AMERICAN AND BRITISH CONSULS

Refused the Privilege of Investigating the Slaughter of the Christian Missionaries—The Chinese Representatives in Washington Explain the News By Saying the Refusal Must Have Been Made by "Local" Officials Who Hadn't Heard from the Government and Didn't Understand the Real Situation.

SHANGHAI, August 19.—A dispatch to the Mercury from Foo Chow says it is reported on good authority there that the Chinese government has refused to allow the American and British consuls, Mr. J. C. Nixon and Mr. R. Mansfield, who accompanied the commission appointed to investigate the Ku Cheng massacre of missionaries and their families at Ku Cheng, to make any investigation into the circumstances of the massacre.

WASHINGTON, August 19.—The officials of the Chinese legation have no information throwing any light on the reported refusal of the home government to permit the members of the mixed British and American commission to investigate the Ku Cheng massacre. In fact the legation has not yet been apprised officially of the appointment of the commission. The only explanation given as a reason for the reported refusal is that the action reported to have been taken was by the Chinese local officials, who possibly have not been informed by the central government of the appointment of the commission to make the investigation, the local officials acting merely on their own inclination on the premises.

If the reported action of the Chinese be correct, it is apparently not a matter of very great surprise to the officials of the state department here. They attribute any refusal of the local authorities to permit the commission to investigate the troubles to the well known desires of the Chinese to conduct such inquiries by their own people, the dislike to having any interference by outsiders and to the general suspiciousness with which they look upon foreigners.

THE CUBAN WAR.

A Son of the Great French Marshal Bismarck a Victim of the Fever.

HAVANA, August 19.—It is reported that the death has occurred in Sonogo from fever, of Sergeant Francisco Baraine, son of the late French Marshal Bismarck.

The insurgents have attacked the fort at the village of San Ambros, three times and have been thrice repulsed, according to reports received here. The insurgent loss is unknown. They plundered a store outside the town.

It has been discovered that the steamers to the mines at Juraguá, province of Santiago de Cuba have been supplying the insurgents with ammunition.

It is given out here that the insurgents burned the grocery store of Charco Honda, district of Vuelitas, province of Santa Clara. In Playa and in Calumoto, province of Matanzas, there was raised an insurgent band of fifteen.

The civil guard pursued the band and it is reported here overtook them and killed eight. Among those said to have been killed is Alde-de-Camp Serafin Sanchez.

Report of Gomez's Death Disproved.

NEW YORK, August 19.—The report from Havana that General Gomez, the hope of the revolutionary party in Cuba and their sympathizers in this city, had died of consumption on July 31, is scoffed at by those best posted in Cuban affairs. A proclamation issued by General Gomez, a copy of which was in his own handwriting, was received in the United Brotherhood in this city to-day. The proclamation bears the date of August 1.

"How can General Gomez have died on July 31?" asked Mr. Trujillo, "when here is a document in his own handwriting dated August 1?"

TURKISH OUTRAGES.

They Drive the Christians From Their Homes in the Sassoun Country.

TIPLI, August 18.—Special advices from Moosh say that the Turkish officials have driven the Christians out of their houses in all the country between Sassoun and Moosh and have given the houses to the members of the Kurdish tribe. The victims are starving.

NARROW ESCAPE

Of a Negro from Being Lynched—Confesses His Crimes.

OTZCO, Mich., August 19.—Sam Sheeler, a negro from Fort Wayne, Ind., narrowly escaped being lynched here to-day. He is one of a gang that have terrorized this vicinity by series of robberies and other crimes for ten days past. Last night he robbed Mrs. M. Smith and tried to assault her. He was captured and jailed this morning.

Later a crowd of citizens entered the little jail unresisted and dragged the negro out with a rope around his neck. He confessed his crimes and told where his confederates could be found. Several posies have started to run down the rest of the robbers.

"Didn't Know It Was Loaded."

TUNKHANNOCK, Pa., August 19.—Fred Doty, the thirteen-year-old son of N. A. Doty, and Tenford Love, the twelve-year-old son of Orrin Love, both living at Mohopany, this county, secured a pistol to-day and went out into the field to play "Wild West." Doty bade Love to open his mouth, and fired a bullet down his throat severing his spinal cord and killing him instantly. They did not know it was loaded.

ITCHING blood is the cause of boils, pimples and other eruptions. Hood's Sarsaparilla purifies the blood, and cures these troubles.

Weather Forecast for Today.

For West Virginia, Western Pennsylvania and Ohio, fair, with easterly winds.

THE TEMPERATURE YESTERDAY.

As furnished by C. S. SHERREY, druggist, corner Market and Fourteenth streets.

8 A. M. 70; 10 A. M. 75; 1 P. M. 80